



County of San Diego

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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To Representatives of Development Permit Applicants and Other Interested Persons

Revisions to Construction Stormwater Guidance: Workshop July 25, 2001

This letter is to inform you of upcoming changes to the County guidance on Construction Best Management Practices (BMPs) relating to stormwater. In anticipation of the start of the rainy season (October 1 to April 30), the County has made certain revisions to the guidance distributed last year. These revisions are the result of experience we gained using our minimum BMP standards last year, recent changes to the Statewide general permit for construction, and our desire to improve performance in reducing stormwater pollution.

Property owners will still be responsible for meeting the same performance goals, but County-established minimum standards have been revised. The attached draft letter of instruction directs County staff to take certain stormwater related actions on projects. While these were developed primarily as instructions to County staff, the Procedures Section (pages 2 - 4), the Plan Notes Section (pages 4 & 5) and the Advisory Section (page 7 & 8) may also provide valuable guidance to property owners and permit holders regarding compliance with County rules.

Beginning August 20, 2001, the County of San Diego will implement these new standards to improve compliance with stormwater requirements during grading operations. To assist in timely introduction of these revisions and the interim guideline for Post Construction BMPs, the County will host a workshop:

Wednesday July 25, 2001

8:00 a.m. to 12:00

County of San Diego Planning Commission Hearing Room

5201 Ruffin Road, San Diego

The principle purpose of the workshop will be to present and discuss revised Construction BMP requirements, to review the previously mailed post-construction guidelines, and to collectively discuss any potential implementation issues. No reservations are required and the workshop is free.

Achieving compliance with applicable stormwater regulations can be confusing. This workshop is being conducted by the Departments of Public Works, Planning and Land Use, and Environmental Health to assist you in understanding your obligations. It is intended to provide you a clear understanding of all new procedures and the roles each County department will be taking to implement them.

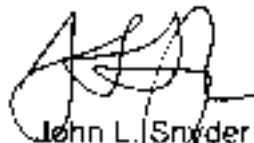
These changes will help ensure construction and grading activities conform to the current California General Permit for Construction Activities and local County ordinances. You will be expected to meet these requirements through reduction of pollutant discharges to stormwater conveyances and receiving waters from your construction site activities. There is no change in the current requirement to develop and implement a plan that addresses erosion control, sediment control, flow control and management of materials and wastes. However some of the BMPs shown on your plan will change under this revised guidance.

We are requesting your review of the attached document. Your comments should be forwarded to Bob Christopher at 5555 Overland Avenue, MS 0336, San Diego, CA 92123; not later than August 15, 2001. Thank you in advance for your review of these guidelines and participation in our workshop. Together we can continue to make a difference in improving the quality of our regional waters. If you have any questions about stormwater pollution prevention requirements, please attend our workshop.

Sincerely,



Gary E. Pryor, Director
Department of Planning and Land Use



John L. Snyder, Director
Department of Public Works